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DATE: December 1, 2004
FILE NO: WEST/0005.D1
TO: Examiner Steven O. Douglas
FAX NO: 703-872-9306
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FROM: Walter C. Grollitsch WCG
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ORIGINAL TO FOLLOW? ☐ YES ☒ NO

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED ON SEPTEMBER 1, 2004

U.S. SERIAL NO.: 10/816,154
CONFIRMATION NO.: 9033
FILING DATE: April 1, 2004
TITLE: AN ACETYLENE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM
INVENTOR: W. Dan Hord, III, et al.
EXAMINER: Steven O. Douglas
GROUP ART UNIT: 3751

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
W. Dan Hord, III, et al.

Serial No.: 10/816,154

Confirmation No.: 9033

Filed: April 1, 2004

For: AN ACETYLENE
DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

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Group Art Unit: 3751

Examiner: Steven O. Douglas

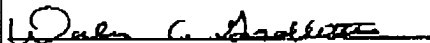
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Walter C. Grollitsch

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED SEPTEMBER 1, 2004

In response to the Office Action dated September 1, 2004, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on December 1, 2004, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. Although Applicants believe that no additional fees are due in connection with this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/WEST/0005.D1/WCG for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. **Remarks** begin on page 5 of this paper.